



IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Serial No.: 10/057,677 )  
Filed: January 25, 2002 )  
For: RESPIRATORY )  
HUMIDIFICATION SYSTEM )  
Applicant: SMITH and LEONARD )  
Examiner: Not yet assigned )  
Art Unit: 2836 )  
Attorney Ref: 1171/40038/110 )

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 16, 2002.

*Tiffany E. Sexton*  
Tiffany E. Sexton

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with Applicant's duty of candor under 37 CFR §1.56 and in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, Applicant is not aware of any material prior art but, in an abundance of caution and candor, Applicant submits the present Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date and before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits and constitutes a bona fide attempt to comply with 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97, the presentation of this information shall not be construed as a representation that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 exists, or as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Should the Examiner believe a fee is required, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized and requested to charge the fee to the deposit account of the undersigned firm, Account No. 20-1495.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 16, 2002

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
1171/40038/110

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### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT: Smith et al.

FILING DATE.  
January 25, 2002

GROUP 2836

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

[illegible]

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.